

Volume 5  
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*Established 2005*

# THE VIRGINIA INFORMER

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An independent  
publication at the College  
of William and Mary.

2008 Collegiate Network  
Paper of the Year



Alec McKinley

**Power hour:** Police respond to a power outage that occurred when a lamp near Barret ruptured. Most outages around campus have been planned, however.

## Power problems around campus lead to planned outages

**Justin Duke**  
Staff Writer

Some students desperate for light to be shed on the recent power outages across campus may be surprised to learn that they weren't as random as they appeared.

The 2009-2010 academic year has seen energetic expansion at William and Mary. Rising energy costs and the opening of the new business school have caused the College's operating expenses to increase by \$1.4

million since last year – almost twenty percent. These expenses, coupled with recent power outages across campus, have left some students wondering whether or not the College is encountering power issues.

"Heading down [the path between Yates Hall and the Crim Dell] at night really scares me, even with lights on," remarked Madeleine Aggeler ('13). "With

**CAMPUS EXPERIENCES POWER OUTAGES**  
continued on page ten

## City Council to discuss possible noise ordinance changes

**Sarah Nadler**  
Managing Editor

The City Council will convene at the Stryker building on Thursday, November 12 at 2 p.m. to discuss changes to the noise ordinance. This meeting, like all regular City Council meetings, will be open to the public.

Mayor Jeanne Zeidler is particularly interested in the enforcement aspects of the ordinance. She is "interested in seeing a revision to the ordinance that would identify the hours of 11 pm to 7 am as the hours of enforcement in the section dealing with large parties." The Mayor feels that would make the ordinance more consistent and, in her opinion, "eliminate the unintended consequence of parties generating a reasonable level of noise being shut down before 11 p.m. if there was a complaint."

In a recent interview, Mayor Zeidler mentioned, "Anyone who wishes to speak is welcome." The Mayor would like to see the community participate in the upcoming discussions. She recommends that suggestions or comments be made prior to the November 12 meeting at the city council work session on Monday, November 9 at 4 p.m. According to Ms. Zeidler, "there will be time set aside on the agenda of that meeting to hear comments on the items for Thursday's agenda."

The Mayor did not mention plans to change the decibel limits, fines or the severity of the violation, now punishable as a misdemeanor. She feels the change in enforcement as quoted above, "is a change that is a reasonable accommodation for all citizens of Williamsburg."

*Editor's Note:* The *Informer* encourages students to attend the meetings in order to make clear what changes are to make Williamsburg a more student friendly college town.

## Faculty, staff donate 16 times more to Democrats in 2009

**Eric Ames**  
Assistant Opinion Editor

Faculty and staff of the College and its affiliated schools have contributed over \$302,708 to various political candidates in the 2009 election cycle. Thus far, \$281,248 has been given to Democrats, \$17,490 to Republicans, and \$3,970 to non-partisan organizations and independent candidates. Of the thirty-three individuals associated with the college who made large political contributions, twenty-two gave only to Democrats, six gave only to Republicans, and five gave to candidates of both parties.

The single largest contributor was Board of Visitors member Suzann Matthews ('71), who gave \$216,800 to Democrats and \$2,500 to non-partisan organiza-

tions. She contributed \$82,400 to Creigh Deeds for Governor, \$22,500 to Jody Wagner for Lieutenant Governor, and \$57,400 to thirteen different House of Delegates campaigns, \$37,400 of which went to Greg Werkheiser. She also donated \$5,000 to Brian Moran's primary campaign when he sought the Democratic Party's nomination for Governor. In addition, she gave \$20,000 to A Strong Majority PAC, \$10,000 to Moving Virginia Forward, \$4,500 to Sharon Bulova for Fairfax County Board Chair, \$10,000 to the Democratic Party of Virginia and \$2,500 to various primary related grassroots organizations. Her contributions amount to roughly 72 percent of all donations given by faculty and staff of the College. Matthews, in addition to having previously worked

for Congressman Mike McCormack, was a co-founder of Quantec Incorporated and plays a key role on numerous Board of Visitors committees.

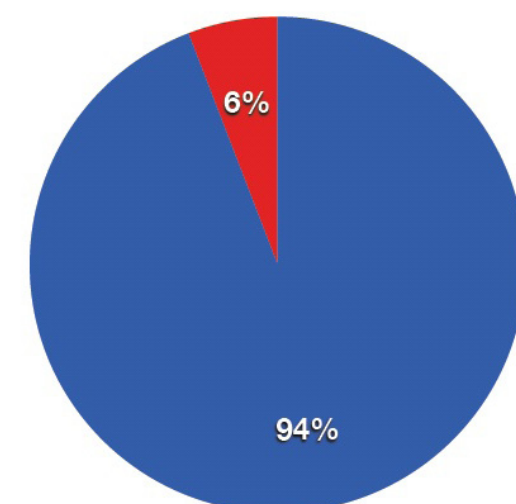
The largest faculty contributor is law professor Jeffrey Breit who donated \$5,500 to Democrats, and \$1,270 to the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association. He gave \$2,500 to Creigh Deeds, \$2,000 to Jody Wagner, and \$1,000 to Brian Moran. Mr. Breit considered a run for the 8<sup>th</sup> Senate District seat in a potential special election to replace Senator Ken Stolle, who recently announced his candidacy for Sheriff of Virginia Beach.

The highest contributor to Republicans was Vice Rector John

**FACULTY DONATES MORE TO DEMOCRATS**

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### Party Contributions



● Democrats  
● Republicans

Shep Walker

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# Five million in funds proposed for Brafferton, adjacent kitchen renovation plan

**Garret Girmus**  
Contributor

The Brafferton, built in 1732 as an Indian school and currently used for administrative offices, might soon be the subject of a substantial renovation. On April 17, 2009, the College Board of Visitors approved the College's 2010-2016 Capital Outlay Plan, which included a proposed 5.1 million dollars to renovate the Brafferton and nearby kitchen.

Anna Martin, Vice-President of Administration for the College, justified the current renovation proposal by stating that "The Brafferton has not been renovated since the early 1930's when the Rockefeller restoration of Colonial Williamsburg began." In addition, according to a document from Louise Kale, Executive Director of the Historic Campus, the buildings also suffer from moisture-related problems that could potentially damage the integrity of the soft historic brick-work and exterior, which could be corrected with renovation work.

According to the Capital Outlay Plan, the proposed renovation will in-

clude work to enhance "security, fire suppression, roof repairs, drainage improvements, HVAC, electrical, and plumbing." The renovation may also include some modification to the floor plan of the Brafferton, and the addition of a ramp to the kitchen, which will help the College obtain a waiver for ADA modifications. In proceeding with the renovation, it is hoped that the renovation will "...enhance the safety, comfort, and convenience of the occupants without damaging the appearance or early fabric of the building."

Currently, a feasibility study is being conducted to better determine the condition of the Brafferton building and adjacent kitchen, and the potential costs of restoration. Although private funds are likely to be used in the restoration of the two buildings, as was done with the Wren Building and the President's House, public funding sources have not been ruled out. In any case, given the current economic conditions, it may be difficult to find funding for the proposed project.



Source: wm.edu

**Built to last:** Many of the Brafferton's bricks date from the 1700's. The building was not heavily damaged by fire as the Wren building and President's House were, and is now scheduled for significant renovation.

## Briefly...

Compiled by Michael Young, Assistant Features Editor

### Reveley encourages financial independence from state

College President Taylor Reveley made a campus-wide announcement about the state of the university, but the most pertinent issue that many students focused on was the financial portion. President Reveley was quite frank, stating: "The financial model that served the College reasonably well since 1906, when William & Mary became a public school, no longer works except in the area of capital projects. Nor is there any realistic prospect that it will work again in the future." President Reveley also highlighted the precipitous decline of state support from a generation ago to today, state support has fallen from 43% of the budget to just 14%. President Reveley said "To realize our potential in this century, we need to build a financial model that lets us do more with more," which sets high hopes for the future of the College, which we all hope to reach.

### McGlothlin courtroom renovated

The McGlothlin Courtroom has been renovated by a joint project that involved the college as well as the Center for Legal and Court Technology and the National Center for State Courts. Chancellor Professor of Law and the director of the Center for Legal and Court Technology, Frederic Lederer described the new courtroom as a "world pilot for court technology" At a cost of about \$1.8 million, which was mostly provided by private companies, the courtroom showcases what the future will look like. These companies are showcasing their products for possible future use in courtrooms around the globe, but also get feedback from those using it about how it can be improved. The new technology includes a system for the jury box that makes jury duty easier for both the hearing and visually impaired as well as a system for videoconferencing during a trial.

### William and Mary prepares for Homecoming

Homecoming is this week, and the events start as early as Wednesday, with department reunions, alumni events, and reunion years for years ending in 4 or 9 this expects to be another great year. The football team is taking on 21st ranked James Madison (2-4) at 5pm on Saturday, and

is favored to win. The alumni website has over 50 events scheduled for all sorts of reunions, organizations, and associations, many including both current and former students. There will be a Friday Night Fest, a children's carnival, a family picnic, as well as the homecoming tailgate. Students and alumni alike have a lot to look forward to.

### College receives prestigious Green Light recognition

The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE) has "green lighted" the College after several years of rating William and Mary a "red light" university. This change occurred after the College agreed to drop regulations on e-mail as well as what FIRE saw as vague examples of harassment. There are only 11 green light universities nationwide out of over 400 surveyed, which signifies a huge step for William and Mary in the direction of first amendment rights. Former SA secretary of Student Rights Braum Katz ('10) was a primary force behind these changes, which have gone into effect. Mr. Katz said "We can now honestly say that William and Mary is amongst the most free-speech friendly universities in the nation."

## THE VIRGINIA INFORMER

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Founders  
Joe Luppino-Esposito & Amanda J. Yasenchak

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CSU 7056, P.O. Box 8793  
Williamsburg, VA 23186  
editor@vainformer.com  
www.VAInformer.com

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The Virginia Informer is an independent, non-partisan, student run publication devoted to reporting the news to the William and Mary community. We exist to provide an alternative to school sponsored news sources. We do not, and never will, receive any financial support from the College of William and Mary. We will not shy away from controversy or be afraid to challenge the norm. We strive to inform and engage our readers via responsible journalism and in-depth reporting, while fostering and giving voice to opinions that are often shut out by the campus establishment.

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# Prominent education scholar opposes push for national standards

**Marissa Reed**

Contributor

Education policy scholar John Witte addressed the outlook for education reform in the Brinkley Commons Room in Miller Hall on October 8. The Professor of Public Affairs and Political Science at the La Follette School of Public Affairs, University of Wisconsin-Madison, visited the newly opened Mason School of Business to express his views in a lecture titled "From School Choice to No Child Left Behind: 25 years of Education Reform in America."

Sponsored by the Government Department, the Thomas Jefferson Program in Public Policy, and the W&M School of Education, Mr. Witte spoke about America's education system in 1984 and how it has changed since he first got involved in the field.

Mr. Witte said that when he first got involved in studying education in America, desegregation was a major issue because of the black-white achievement gap, which has since been tightened up. School choice did not exist, with only 12 percent of students attending private schools and the rest in the public school system. The majority of these schools were Catholic.

Minnesota paved the way for 40 other states when the first charter school was opened in 1991. Mr. Witte has studied the outcomes of charter schools for several years through the U.S. Department of Education.

Another problem the system faced in 1984 was a lack of standardization. Over the past 25 years, states have accepted standardized tests, teacher licensing re-

quirements, and minimum requirements for graduation as a way to equalize schools across the system. Mr. Witte said that in recent years, school performance on tests has been linked to state-given aid as an incentive for higher passing rates.

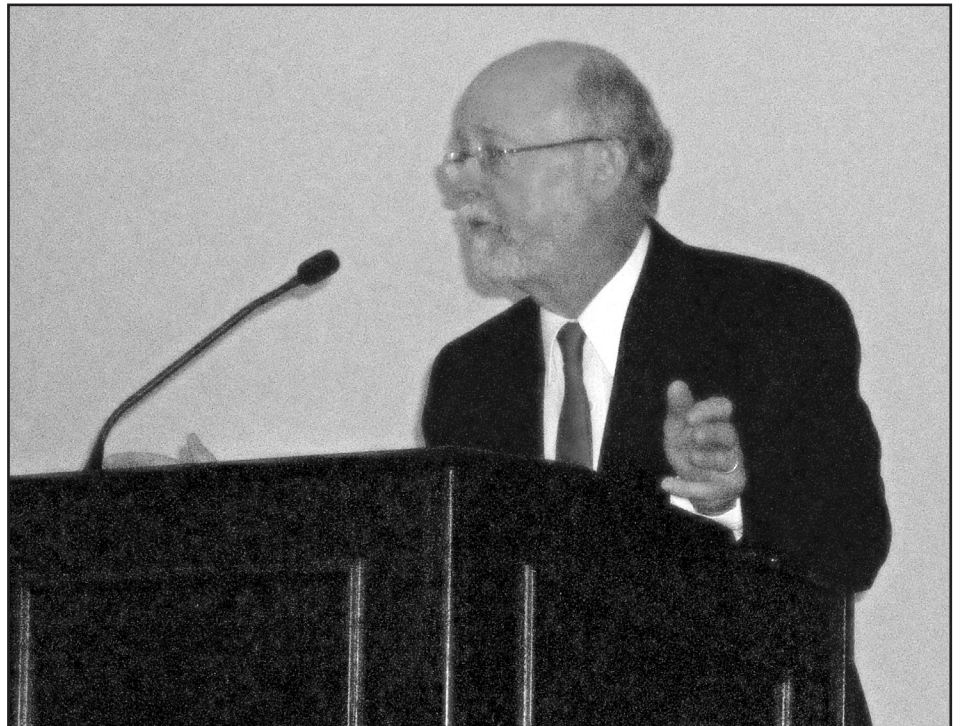
For a large portion of the lecture, Mr. Witte spoke about the historic movement of federal involvement in education primarily through the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. He referred to it as a movement of increased "standards, assessment, and accountability" across the board.

One of the sticking points of NCLB is the requirement for school districts to show adequate yearly progress, which has been defined in different terms by different states. National proficiency tests such as the National Assessment of Educational Progress can be compared with state proficiencies to get a better sense of the results of differing education decisions.

Another aim was to have 100% proficiency in math, language arts and science by 2014, a date which Mr. Witte said will likely be moved back whenever the act is reauthorized.

A positive result of the act is that it has led to more school choice, or freedom for parents to choose inexpensive education options for their children. However, Mr. Witte said that despite the results of vouchers and magnet and charter school money being shown as neutral or positive, he suspected that parents merely portrayed themselves as affirmative. While the results suggest that the schools are better, it may be the idea of more opportunities rather than the actualization of them that parents reported.

In all, Mr. Witte was not positive about



Nicole Leger

**Policy professional:** John Witte shared with students and faculty his experiences with educational reform. Witte adamantly opposed any national educational standards.

the act and said he would adamantly oppose a push for national standards.

Mr. Witte fielded questions from students and faculty members who attended the lecture and elaborated on specifics he had skimmed over.

One of his major concerns that came up in an answer about the international education system was the decline of U.S. test scores. Both the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) and the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) have become more reliable over the past 25

years, whereas in the past any results showing a deficiency in one nation's education could be suspect and so consequently, having mean American scores lower than other nations' means was not significant to American educators.

In the past the top students in America always outperformed students from other nations, regardless of where the mean scores fell. Today, mean scores remain below average and both top scorers and college graduation rates are falling behind international students, who still come to the U.S. for superior graduate programs.

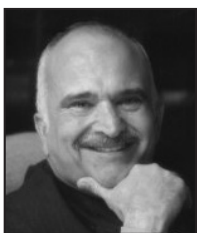
## A royal visit from a Hashemite prince

**Jacob Evans**

Staff Writer

On Thursday October 12, Prince El Hassan bin Talal of Jordan spoke at the Sadler Center with a message about peace and international politics. He shared insights from his life and career. Prince El Hassan, whose late brother was King Hussein, is a member of the Hashemite dynasty which claims direct descent from the Prophet Muhammad's daughter Fatimah.

Accompanied by Professor Sonn of the Department of Religious Studies, Prince El Hassan gave brief remarks before answering questions from the packed student audience. His Royal Highness focused on the common values and heritage that we all share as part of one global society. Drawing from the diversity of his own experience, Prince El Hassan talked about a copy of the Catechism he received from then Cardinal Ratzinger (the current Pope Benedict XVI), observing that "we all share ethics, values, and morals." Quoting from the sacred teachings of several faiths, Prince El Hassan noted that "the universality of the Golden Rule is obvious." The remarks conveyed the impression that it was the se-



HASSAN

lective memory of individuals, and not a societal distinction, that allows us to forget the commonality of all people.

His speech quickly turned to more recent events and issues, with a particular focus on West Asian migration and development. The true challenges for many in West Asia are exacerbated by an out flux of educated persons to the developed world, making it increasingly unlikely that "humanizing globalization" will be achieved in nations like Jordan. Especially troublesome is the projected 55 million Arabs who will be unemployed in 2015. His Royal Highness humanized the Jordanian royal family during his visit to the College, even if his goals for West Asia are ambitious.

Former President George W. Bush asked current Jordanian King Abdullah, Prince El Hassan's nephew, to increase democracy and press freedom in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, a request that is yet to be met. Prince El Hassan described Jordan to students as a nation that tries to maintain middle ground and avoid major conflicts. This may be correct, but the monarchy's middle path on human rights may prove unsustainable.

## Richmond program provides unique opportunity to students

**Curt Mills**

Contributor

For students interested in getting involved in government directly, the William and Mary Richmond Interns Program offers an excellent opportunity to do just that. For the second year, the Government department has maintained this program, which each year matches twelve students with legislators, administrators, and various other groups in Virginia state government.

The program puts students on the front lines of action in the spring session of the General Assembly, from January to March each year. Students receive 3 credits for Government 390 and travel to Richmond twice a week to meet with figures such as Governor Kaine, Lieutenant Governor Bolling, and Attorney General McDonnell, as well as various prominent senators, delegates, and even lobbyists. At these meetings, students discuss relevant issues and hot topics of the session with the officials. Students have an opportunity to interact on a fairly regular basis with President Reveley, who is also involved in the program.

The program holds particular significance for some members of the Student Assembly, as it was fostered by a bill written by then-Senator Sarah Rojas. Ms. Rojas credited the program as one of her major accomplishments during her campaign for SA President last year.

The program is led by Senate Minority Leader Tommy Norment (R, 3<sup>rd</sup> district). Mr. Norment is from James City County and has had a long state senate career. In addition to heading this program, Mr. Norment is considered a strong advocate for education in general, securing investments

for the College on several occasions. Mr. Norment is very involved in the Williamsburg community; he is a graduate of the law school, attended local James Blair High School, and is a member of the Williamsburg Area Chamber of Commerce.

Brian Focarino ('11) is the student liaison and contact for the program. In addition to participating in the program last year, he has also had Mr. Norment as a professor on two separate occasions, interned for him, and worked with him over summers through the Virginia Senate Republican Caucus. For him, the most beneficial part of the program was the pragmatic lessons learned about how government actually works, rather than the theory taught in class. Mr. Focarino says that through this special program, students have the opportunity to be much more involved in the daily process of things than in the often stale atmosphere of most internships. Since it's an academic course, participants don't do much coffee fetching and paper faxing. "By working with a state legislator, you have the opportunity to be leaned on heavily and given significant tasks - you truly become an integral part of whatever office you're working for," he said.

Entering the program is through an application process. Mr. Focarino says the program seeks students who are dedicated to and interested in the democratic process, especially as it pertains to questions of federalism and policy-making at the state level. To the General Assembly, the twelve students selected are representative of the College of William & Mary. The deadline for applications was October 16.



# Norment scrutinized for “conflict of interest”

**Hart Moore**  
Assistant News Editor

News has begun to crop up in regard to the employment of Virginia State Senator Tommy Norment (J.D. '73) at the College of William and Mary.

Since July of 2008, Mr. Norment has earned \$160,000 a year serving as both a government and law professor, and as legal counsel to President Taylor Reveley. Many have perceived a conflict of interest in Mr. Norment's simultaneous role as both a senior member of the State Finance Committee, and as a state employee.

On Friday, Mr. Norment released a 2008 correspondence between himself and then Virginia Attorney General Bob McDonnell, in which Mr.

McDonnell advised Mr. Norment to refrain from voting on legislation that directly affected Mr. Norment's employment. Mr. Norment had earlier been reluctant to release the eight page document on grounds that the opinion's complicated legal nature might have given a misleading impression of his conduct.

Some had cited Mr. Norment's support of nearly \$20 million in funding for the College as improper, but Mr. Norment notes, "My constituents expect me to advocate for the College, one of the main economic drivers in the 3rd District." Mr. Norment

went further to say, "I will continue to advocate for the College in Richmond through budget amendments and other legislative actions."

The issue has also put scrutiny on William and Mary's unique practice of hiring legal counsel outside of the Attorney General's office, something not practiced by any other Virginia state university. Taylor Reveley issued an email to faculty and staff Tuesday in which he referenced the growing complexity of legal issues arising on campus, and asserted

that it was necessary to supplement legal counsel from the Attorney General's office with figures such as Mr. Norment. Current Attorney General Bill Mim's disagreed, arguing that the College could not be guaranteed the privacy of attorney – client privilege if his office was not directly involved.

Mr. Mim's chief deputy Martin Kent supported Mr. Mim's stance on state constitutional grounds, and elaborated, "For whatever reason, the General Assembly saw fit that it [legal counsel] come through one entity, and that's us." Mr. Norment himself acknowledges that he is not guaranteed complete attorney – client privilege as private legal counsel. However, he does believe that his close relationship with the at-

torney General's office will provide substantial confidentiality. Mr. Norment stresses that "I did not finalize my contract with the College until after I received this opinion".

Lastly, Mr. Norment's substantial salary of \$160,000 has been put under scrutiny. According to CNN, the average law professor salary is a full \$60,000 less, and many critics have argued that Mr. Norment's four credit teaching load does not warrant such compensation Mr. Norment, before taking his position at the College, had stepped down as a senior partner from the prominent Norfolk based law firm "Kaufman and Canoles", and is compensated \$18,000 a year as a state senator.



wm.edu

**Leader in education:** Tommy Norment was honored with William and Mary School of Education's Jo Lynne DeMary Award in 2007.



Alec McKinley

**Moonlighting?:** Problems have arisen concerning Senator Norment's serving both on the State Finance Committee and as a professor at the College.



# Never, never, never give up.

—Winston Churchill

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# Students “branch out” to tackle social problems

*“Alternative breaks” for students pick up steam, spread knowledge*

**Brittany Lane**  
Features Editor

Alternative breaks that involve volunteering, rather than partying at the beach or staying home and watching TV, are on the rise for college students. At William and Mary, the Office of Community Engagement and Scholarship (OCES) offers “Branch Out” service trips throughout the year at the regional, national, and international levels, fulfilling part of this increasing demand.

Formed just this year, the mission of the Branch Out programs is to “focus on issue-specific education, strong direct service, reflection, sharing knowledge about the issues, and the integration of these experiences so participants will become more engaged global citizens.” The former Office of Student Volunteer Services merged with the Sharpe Community Scholars program to create OCES, and the new name emphasizes a different and deeper angle of service.

According to Sarah Van Dine (’10), OCES Student Director of Branch Out: National, service at William and Mary is unique because students “educate themselves about the issues at hand in order to work towards creating social change,” rather than simply volunteering their time. “After returning back from an Alternative Break, you begin to realize that social issues traverse both international and community borders,” she said.

Last Spring Break, Kayla Measell (’11) traveled to Camden, NJ, through the College. In a city with a large drug presence, her group worked with an organization called UrbanPromise which “aimed

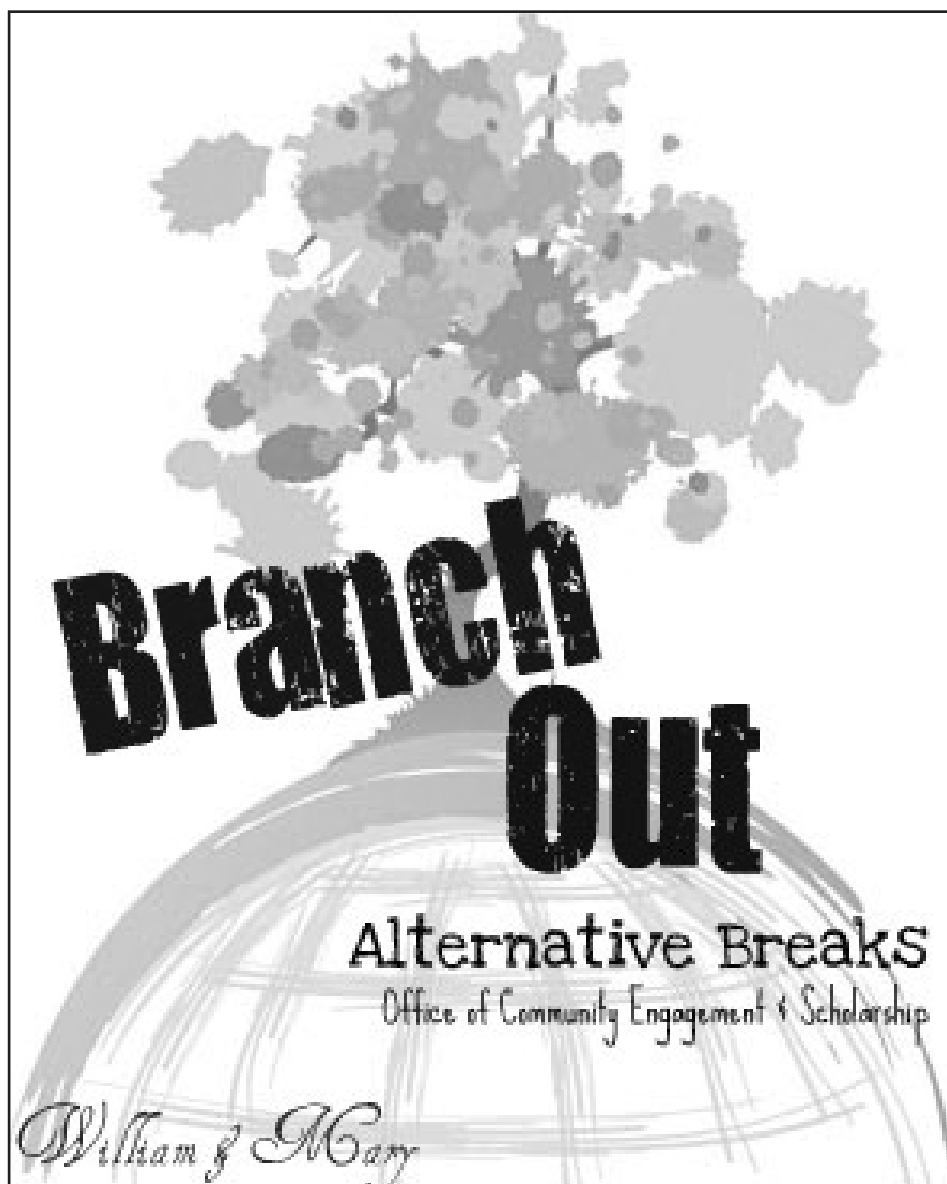
to provide a better education, but more importantly, to keep the children off the streets in the hours after school.” Calling it one of her best experiences in college, Ms. Measell noted how much she learned, how close the group of students became, and how well-executed the trip was.

Each alternative break program is led by two Student Directors who train and work closely with team and site leaders before and during the trips. Branch Out: Regional entails brief weekend trips to nearby communities and also sends groups of 12 students to cities across the Eastern U.S. during Spring Break. Issues for 2010 include affordable housing, hunger and homelessness, environmental sustainability, educational inequality, and health advocacy and reform. Branch Out: International encompasses various student organizations on campus that travel abroad to perform service work. Such trips occur in January, March, and May to places including Nicaragua, Honduras, and Tanzania.

As another Student Director of Branch Out: National, Maggie Ryan (’10) stated, “We are not trying to simply get students to build a house for a day or a week, but rather we are getting students to think about all the reasons why this house needs to be built in the first place.”

Ms. Measell’s only suggestion for OCES would be to increase the number of trips. “There is a never-ending number of places that could use help, so I think it would benefit everyone to have more trips.”

Already a campus full of future so-



cial activists, William and Mary’s Branch Out alternative break programs engage students in an educational and fun ex-

perience, where the supply of students always exceeds the available funds and opportunities.

## Blame It on the Alcohol

# Not Over the Moon for Harvest Moon

Fall is hands down my favorite season. The leaves are changing colors, football is finally on, and Thanksgiving is just around the bend—and who doesn’t love Thanksgiving?

Now I have discovered yet another thing to look forward to: seasonal beers. The latest that I have tried is Harvest Moon Pumpkin Ale, Blue Moon’s autumn beer. Envision Bubba’s affinity for shrimp in Forrest Gump, and that’s essentially how I regard pumpkin-flavored foods. I’m truly a sucker for anything pumpkin, be it pumpkin pie, pumpkin muffins, pumpkin soup, pumpkin bread,



pumpkin seeds, and even Starbucks’ pumpkin spice lattes. It was only natural for me to be fascinated with a pumpkin beer.

The first time that I tried Harvest Moon, I thought I had fallen in love. One Friday evening, my friend Laura cooked up a hearty meal of pasta with meat sauce, bruschetta, and a gourmetesque salad to celebrate the end of a long week. All that was missing was a beverage to complement the spread and commence the weekend’s festivities.

I glanced through Laura’s fridge and to my astonishment dis-

covered this gem, a real diamond in the rough surrounded by Natural Lights and cheap white zinfandel. The beer complemented the meal beautifully, and I vowed to buy a six pack for myself in the near future.

I did just that on the Monday night of Fall Break. A group of friends and I made plans to get together and watch some Monday Night Football, and so naturally we made our way to Bloom to pick up some drinks.

Without school the next day, we collectively decided to make a night of it, and what better time is there to just sit on the couch and drink beers? I sure can’t think of one. Just as

the Dolphins/Jets game kicked off, I twisted the cap off of my first Harvest Moon, took a sip, and waited for the delicious combination of autumn flavors to settle on my palate and delight me once again. Unfortunately, Harvest Moon tasted considerably more bitter than I remembered, and the pumpkin flavor seemed no more than a subtle afterthought. I wondered aloud as to what the heck had happened. How had I been fooled? A beer that I had enjoyed just one week before tasted completely different.

I came to the conclusion that Harvest Moon cannot stand alone. Coupled with a substan-

tial dinner it flourishes; however, when drunk by itself it does not deliver nearly the same degree of satisfaction. According to the Blue Moon website, Harvest Moon goes great with turkey, sweet potatoes, and beef, which I can only imagine is true. I have come to realize that I did not in fact fall in love with Harvest Moon, but rather I lusted after its promise of a “vine-ripened pumpkin” flavor. Harvest Moon seemed like Mr. Right at the time, but unfortunately it was only Mr. Right Now. I am confident that there are many more beers in the sea and that better, more pumpkin-y ones are waiting out there for me to try.

*Editor’s Note: The Virginia Informer encourages its readers to please drink responsibly, and in accordance with local, state and federal law.*



**Kathryn Failon**  
Beer Columnist

**WANTED: Students who want to make an IMPACT on campus**

**Meetings for *The Virginia Informer* are on Mondays, 7:30pm in Blow 331**



## SA's consolidated reserve account's interest goes to BOV

Michael Young  
Assistant Features Editor

*The Virginia Informer* has learned that the interest from the Student Assembly's Consolidated Reserve bank account, currently at around \$178,000, does recycle into the account but is instead is given to the administration.

A Freedom of Information Act request aimed to determine the amount of interest earned annually and where that interest goes. The Consolidated Reserve is the account to which unused student activity fees are deposited at the end of each academic year. From this account many larger purchases are made on behalf of the student body by the Student Assembly Senate.

The response to the FOIA revealed that the interest on the account is not returned to the account. "The interest associated with the student activities fee fund balance is credited to the unrestricted funds of the Board of Visitors," according to the document.

"Consistent with the College's treatment of other local account balances, these funds are then combined with other Board unrestricted revenue to support BOV allocations for student financial aid, faculty support, etc."

One Senator, speaking on a condition of anonymity, stated that they believed that the money taken as interest was being sent back to accounting overhead, but otherwise has been confirmed. However, the key issue remains is the fact that the money does not go back into the account managed by the SA, but is instead re-deposited elsewhere.

According to the FOIA response, annual interest on the account is significant. The per year average over the last five years had an "average annual allocation of \$9,100."

It has been suggested in years past that the Student Assembly could receive better returns on unspent funds in a short term money market or setting up a system of Rolling CDs. Money markets and other investments have also been suggested by members of the Student Assembly. Significantly, either change would not affect the balance of the account, as the money is diverted elsewhere.

Student Vice President Ryan Ruzic, when asked, had only the following to say about the current situation: "Students pay these fees with the expectation that the money will go to them, if the students' money generates interest, then that's still the students' money."

### Drink of the Week

## Lavender Mango Vodka

Jeff Dailey  
Staff Writer

add ice. Garnish with a slice of orange (for the gout of course).

If you must know, or if you haven't figured it out already, I'm a fan of fruity (aka girly) beverages. You should be, too, if I'm going to be honest with you. They're delicious, refreshing, and usually have pieces of real, juicy fruit in them (which will prevent you disciples of the Hot-Pocket from getting gout). Truly, alcohol is meant to be enjoyed. It's purpose isn't to get you drunk (though this is often a happy side effect). So next time you have to choose between shots of luke-warm "Crat" and this weeks drink, I fully expect you to choose the latter--

#### Ingredients:

- Two shots of mango vodka (I like Finlandia)
- One sachet of lavender-citrus cocktail tea
- Plenty of ice

It's pretty self-explanatory; soak the tea in the vodka until it turns purple,

*Editors Note: The Virginia Informer encourages its readers to please drink responsibly, and in accordance with local, state and federal law.*



Jeff Dailey

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# Free STI testing provided at College Health Center

*Approximately only 190 paid for tests last year*

**Kiersten Hoffman**  
Contributor

The standard battery of sexually transmitted infection test at the Student Health Center costs \$76. A Chlamydia test is \$18. A Gonorrhea test is \$18. A syphilis test is \$10 and an HIV test \$25. A physical exam to rule out herpes or genital warts is \$5. To alleviate these expenses for students and encourage sexual health on campus, the Student Assembly voted at the end of September to allocate \$13,000 from the consolidated reserve toward funding free STI testing for students.

While the number of students using the Health Center for STI testing is confidential, last year 950 tests were given. Under the assumption that each student takes each of the five standard tests, around 190 students took advantage of the Health Center's STI testing last year.

The Student Assembly decided on the amount of \$13,000 by looking at how many tests had been given in the past and multiplying that by the average cost of the tests. The SA has decided on a payment plan with the College in which the Health Center sends samples out to Sentara hospital, who in turn bills the Health Center. The Health Center covers these costs and is then reimbursed by the Student Assembly. This payment plan allows the SA to easily track the costs and fulfill the College's requirement of paying the Health Center through reimbursement.

At this point, the first invoice for the STI testing is unavailable. Therefore, it is unclear as to how many students have taken advantage of the free tests. SA Vice President Ryan Ruzic JD '11 said, "Because this service is so new, we don't know at the moment how many students are availing themselves to it, though when I met with the Health Center, students had already showed up to request testing."

The SA was not originally planning

on covering costs for HIV tests because there are a number of free clinic days that cover HIV tests. However, the Student Assembly decided that given the fact that HIV is such a serious affliction, the tests for HIV would be included in the covered tests as well.

The \$13,000 that the SA set aside for STI testing is the largest appropriation of money this year. Some members of the SA do not want to continually fund the STI testing from the student reserve, and therefore the Student Health Act includes the provision that the SA's Department of Health and Safety will lobby the College to subsidize the future costs of these tests. The Student Health Act also includes the provision that if lobbying the administration fails, a referendum will be put forth in the spring to see if students would be willing to increase their student fees to cover STI testing costs.

Some students say they would be open to an increase in their student fees in order to receive free STI testing. Courtney Proffit '11 said, "If there is an increase in student fees, I'm essentially already paying for the tests. Paying for it is an incentive to go in and get what I've paid for."

## Cost of STI testing at Health Center

- \$25 HIV test
- \$18 Chlamydia
- \$18 Gonorrhea
- \$10 Syphilis
- \$5 Genital warts or herpes

SA allocation: \$13,000

Number of tests last year: 950\*  
\* last year test fees were charged to students

# Mascot search nears finalist selection

**Chelsea Sisson**  
Staff Writer

William and Mary's most recent search for a mascot began in February 2009. In 1927, the mascot of the College of William and Mary was an alligator. Starting in the 1980s, the term "Indians" was no longer used. Terry Driscoll, chairman of the Mascot Committee, put it this way: "I've been here fourteen years and we haven't had an official mascot in all my time being here." It seems that the students, alumni, and staff of the College are finally ready to fill our mascot void.

The Mascot Committee officially formed last February. According to Terry Driscoll, the purpose of the committee was to be open and inclusive to anyone who had a relationship with William and Mary in order to generate ideas for a new mascot. After submissions of ideas for a new mascot were accepted, a three-month response period followed. In order to make commenting and feedback possible regarding the submissions and ideas, the committee started a Twitter account, created a Facebook account, used the alumni magazine, and spread word through campus publications. The three-month period ended on June 30th. After interviewing three firms, William and Mary decided to use a Texas-based design company to design the mascot.

Student involvement remains central to the committee. Seven students in total have been appointed to the committee, and once the submissions are narrowed down to the final four, another response period will begin. This response period will be shorter than the previous one,



and will most likely last two to three weeks.

The committee is currently in the process of narrowing down the submissions of the mascot search. About four will make it to the final round. Submissions making it to this round are based on popularity as well as criteria such as merchandising ability and costume practicality. After cuts are made, the design company will pencil sketch each option and market test them for an idea of public opinion. Then the two to three weeks for response will begin, and students, alumni, and staff can comment on these final ideas. Terry Driscoll is hopeful that this process will be completed sometime next semester.

Is William and Mary really ready for a new mascot? Over 600 submissions for a new mascot were received including historical figures, fruits, vegetables, and mythical creatures. With the high rate of participation, a student friendly committee and even some attention from ESPN, it will sure be interesting to see what the College will eventually decide.

# Lacrosse team enjoys game two decades on

**Kirk Vernegaard**  
News Editor

While William and Mary doesn't have a varsity lacrosse team, the Men's Club Lacrosse team is a formidable alternative. Composed of 40 athletes, the Club Lacrosse team annually battles it out against schools across Virginia including UVA, University of Richmond, Hampden Sydney, JMU, and ODU and is a member of the National College Lacrosse League. The team president is Geordy Clements ('10).

The current club team was founded in the 1990s after the varsity men's lacrosse team was cut. The club's website notes, "the Men's Club Lacrosse team was re-activated in the spring of 1999 to promote the sport of lacrosse at the College of William and Mary and to provide and outlet for the extensive interest and enthusiasm for lacrosse amongst the Col-

lege's men."

Practices are held weekly at 4 PM on the frat field, which is a fitting location, according to club member Ben Rosen ('10), because "most of our members come from fraternities." Additionally, Mr. Rosen admits that for this reason, full attendance at practices is rare.

Most of the members on the club team have played since their prep school days, and some began even earlier. Most hail from Virginia, but teammates also come from New Hampshire, Colorado, and 'the hotbed of lacrosse,' Maryland.

Lacrosse players at William & Mary adopt a unique language when talking amongst each other.

The "Wand" refers to the actual lacrosse stick. "Turfdogs" are the shoes one wears when playing lacrosse. "Midcalves" are the socks. "Lettuce" refers to the hair of a lacrosse player, which often flows out of the back of the helmet.

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# Noise Ordinances in V

## Strictest noise ordinances in college towns

1.

  
Williamsburg, VA

2.

  
Harrisonburg, VA

3.

  
Norfolk, VA

4.

  
Fairfax, VA

5.

  
Blacksburg, VA

6.

  
Richmond, VA

7.

  
Newport News, VA

8.

  
Lynchburg, VA

9.

  
Radford, VA

10.

  
Fredericksburg, VA

11.

  
Charlottesville, VA

12.

  
Hampton Sydney, VA

**Bert Mueller**  
Executive Editor

William and Mary students aren't the only ones fighting against noise ordinances that restrict behavior; singer Madonna was recently sued and threatened with eviction due to the amount of noise she was creating by dancing and performing music in her Manhattan apartment.

The city of Williamsburg is planning on examining the effects and effectiveness of its newly implemented ordinance on November 12. One problem with the ordinance so far has been inconsistency with the hours of its enforcement. Mayor Jeanne Zeidler indicated in a recent interview that she was interested in revising the ordinance to "identify the hours of 11 pm to 7 am as the hours of enforcement in the section dealing with large parties" as this would make the ordinance consistent. It would also allow a reasonable level of noise to be emitted prior to 11pm.

Williamsburg is ranked first in strictness, having the strictest noise ordinance of any college town in Virginia. The noise ordinance rankings are primarily ordered by the severity of the misdemeanor class. Factors such as decibel levels and

the length of quiet hours define rankings within these classes. Williamsburg ranks first because noise violators are charged with a Class 1 misdemeanor on their third noise violations.

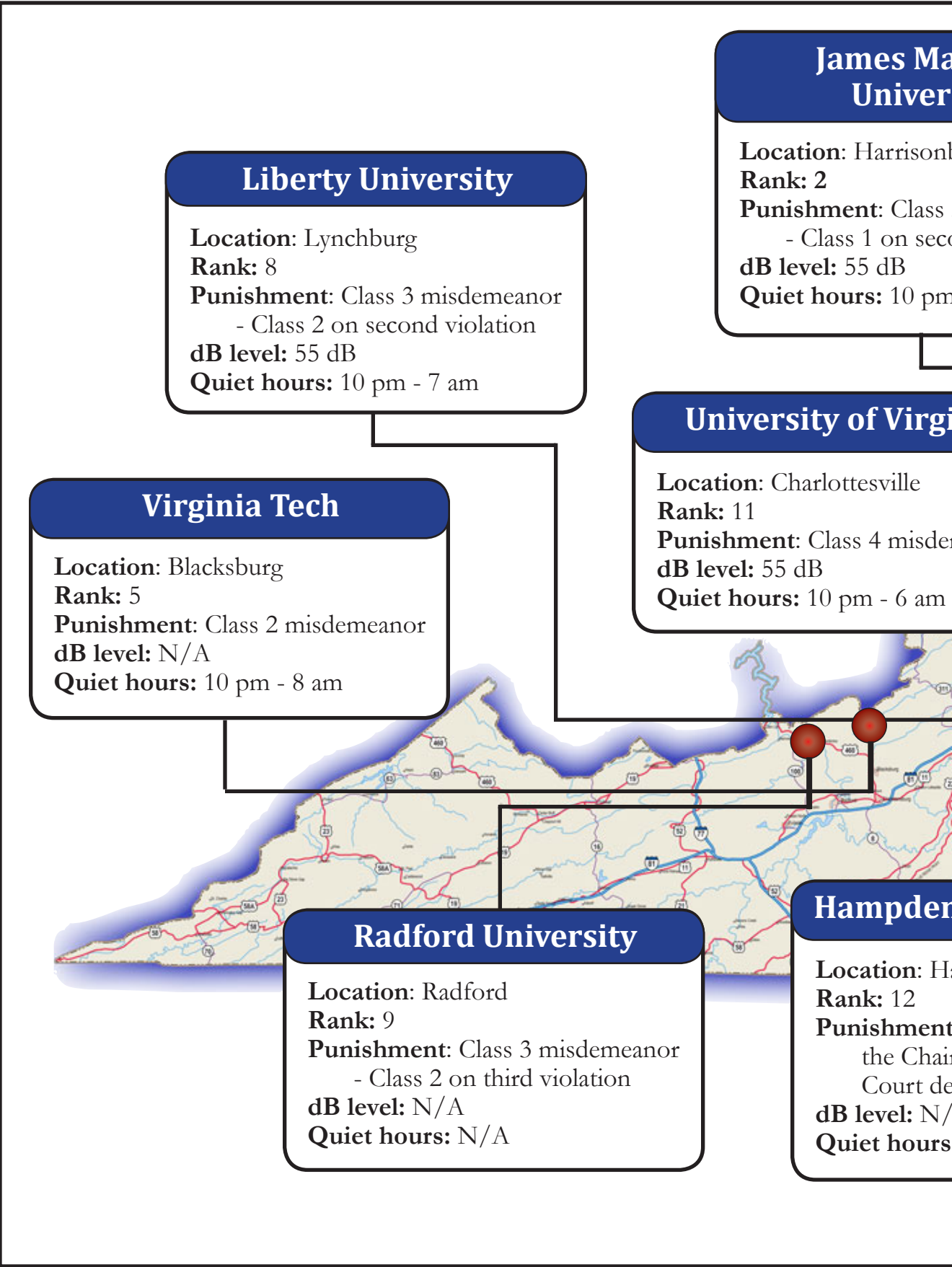
This punitive structure makes the law the strictest among Virginia college towns. Cities that do not specify decibel levels have greater difficulty in enforcing their ordinances. It is difficult to prove noise created by violators was "unreasonably loud" or "raucous," two popular phrases used in noise ordinances in Virginia cities. Undefined quiet hours provide a similar conundrum for enforcement and conviction.

Certain cities have added special twists to noise ordinance punishment and enforcement. Community service is required for offenders of the Harrisonburg noise ordinance. On the first violation, 50 community service hours are required in addition to whatever punishment is meted out by a court. For the second violation (and each thereafter), 100 community service hours must be performed. Harrisonburg is similar to Williamsburg in that violators can be charged with a Class 1 misdemeanor after multiple violations.

Another special stipulation in noise ordinances is the "Large Party Public Nuisance" clause

that is seemingly Blacksburg's "Large Party Public Nuisance" clause states, "A gathering of people where the noise is so loud that it is within a structure, on a porch, in a yard, on a lawn, or in an outdoor space, which is prohibited by this ordinance includes..."

Across Virginia, many cities are revising their noise ordinances. The previous year, the City of Virginia Beach was ruled "unlawful" for not specifying what constituted "noise" was. Most cities would have met the standard set by the law. In September, the City of Virginia Tech, the City of Radford, and the City of Lynchburg are revising their noise ordinances. The rewriting of the ordinances may not have much impact, however; many students have reported noise violations in previous years. Student Council stated, "The cops





# Virginia College Towns

designed for college parties. Large Party Public Nuisance” gathering of ten (10) or more people gathered is not contained but spills outdoors into balconies, parking lots, or other areas, which creates excessive noise as a chapter.” Williamsburg’s noise ordinance has such a clause. Cities are following the lead of Williamsburg and are redefining previously vague noise ordinances in Virginia as “unconstitutionally vague” as it is that a “reasonable amount of noise” is too much. This same verdict in a court of law, the city of Blacksburg, home of Virginia Tech, has redefined its noise ordinance. Blacksburg is currently redefining theirs. The Virginia Tech ordinance has such an effect on college life, students at the school say that they were liberally distributed in previous years. James McWhorter (’10) says they are all about giving tickets for

noise violations [at Virginia Tech]. Chances are, if a cop comes to a party, it’s not for the underage drinking: it’s to pass out a ticket for noise.” Taylor Brown personally experienced this: “My buddies have a house that we have thrown many loud parties at. It’s in a neighborhood with some older folks and the cops have shown up many times. They have only written two noise violations, which were about \$200 in fines. If you quiet down, they usually won’t come back or write you a ticket.” At Radford College, prior to the rewriting of the ordinances, Drew Radford (’07) felt that the police were quite strict with noise violations. “I [felt] I was repressed due to these regulations,” he added. The city of Hampden-Sydney, which ranks last in terms of severity, does not have a noise ordinance on the books. Mike Hull, who attended Hampden-Sydney for two years, described Hampden-Sydney as “unique.” He added that the college essentially “is the town,” and although they do have campus cops, “the students kind of run the show. I’ve never had any noise violations nor do I know anyone who has. Cops will come around and tell kids to settle down, especially on class nights. I think it’s pretty cool.

The cops are your friends at HSC more than any other school I’ve experienced, but they are still strict when things aren’t within the lines.” Fraternity presidents are responsible for managing the noise emitted from fraternity houses. Students are almost universally dissatisfied with strict noise ordinances, but just because this is to be expected does not necessarily mean that cries of protest are unfounded, say students. Buddy Curtis said, “I think people shouldn’t get too worked up about someone being a little too loud. If they are, they should just talk to the people, and if it is consistently a problem or a ridiculous party, then they should either talk to their landlord or call the cops.” James McWhorter agreed with the logic behind the ordinances but found the size of the fines troublesome: “I agree that sometimes noise can be an issue, especially when you are having a party in the middle of a neighborhood, but should the fines be so high?” Students with three noise violations in Williamsburg can be theoretically fined up to \$2500 under the Class 1 misdemeanor. This is not to say that the city will administer such a high fine. The option is there, however.

Misdemeanor  
Classes

Class 1

Confinement in jail for not more than twelve months and a fine of not more than \$2,500, either or both.

Class 2

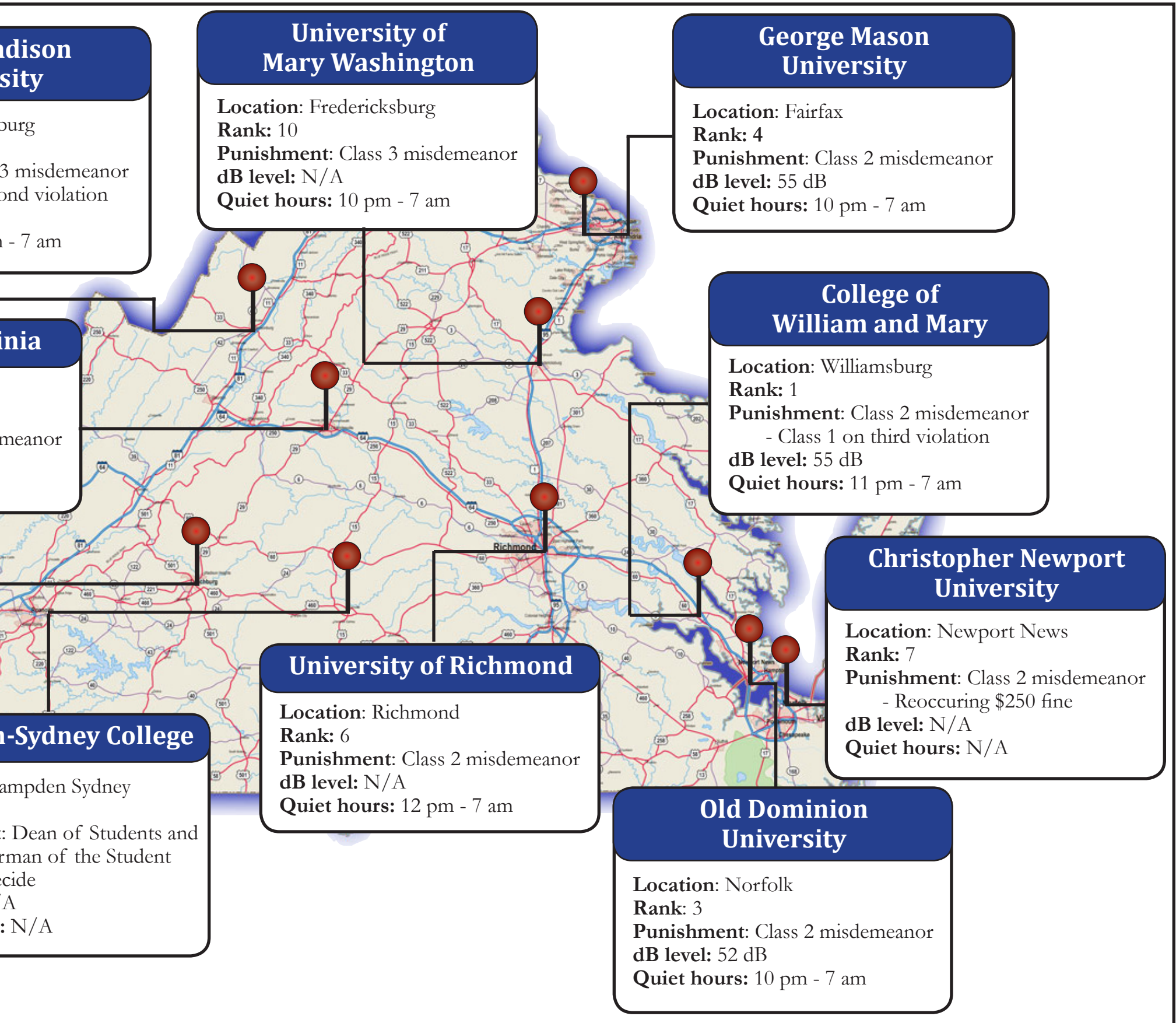
Confinement in jail for not more than six months and a fine of not more than \$1,000, either or both.

Class 3

A fine of not more than \$500.

Class 4

A fine of not more than \$250.





# CAMPUS EXPERIENCES POWER OUTAGES: College plans many because of power problems

continued from page one

the lights out, it's even worse – I can barely see where I'm walking." According to Ms. Aggeler, over the past two months this light, which illuminates an otherwise pitch-black path, has featured "spotty performance." This troublesome light, however, may not be an electricity problem but a specific outage issue. Even when one disregards this isolated incident, over the past four weeks the random outages have been especially common; students have reported a total of seven isolated incidents, both inside and outside classrooms.

However, Campus Energy Manager Dan Patterson says that these concerns are without merit, attributing the spike in outages to a recent bout of electrical mishaps. Mr. Patterson explained, "Miller Hall did not affect any power outages, but the new transformer that services the building failed and needed to be replaced." According to Mr. Patterson, the issue was compounded by a failure in a Dominion Power cable running through campus that arose from a break in insulation and required immediate maintenance. As soon

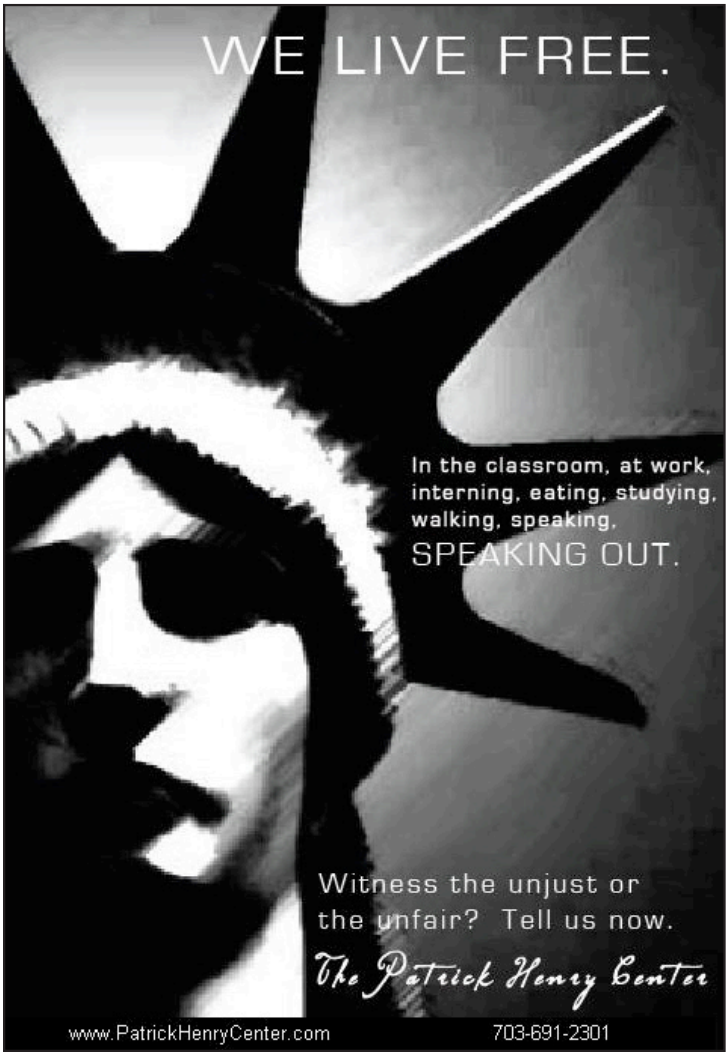
as these "random mishaps" are identified, he says, the lines are shut off and immediately repaired. Other than that, however, most outages have been deliberate and planned. For example, the series of outages in and surrounding the Bryan Complex were due to the need to install a new transformer for the renovated Career Center. "We have to upgrade them at some point regardless," Mr. Patterson said. "More than anything, it's a safety issue," Mr. Patterson said. "We try to avoid such outages, but sometimes it cannot be helped."

# FACULTY DONATES MORE TO DEMOCRATS: Contributions to Democrats 16 times more than Republicans

continued from page one

Gerdelman ('75), who gave \$4,500 to Republican gubernatorial candidate Bob McDonnell. Mr. Gerdelman has served on the boards of several companies and was a member of the State Council for Higher Education. Another one of the largest contributors to Republicans was Board of Visitors Rector and former CFO of Norfolk Southern Henry C. Wolf ('64), who donated \$3,500. His contributions included \$2,500 to Jeffrey McWaters for Senate as well as \$1,000 to Senator Tommy Norment, who represents the Williamsburg and James City County area in Richmond. In addition to Wolf, Gerdelman, and Matthews, eight other members of the Board also donated to various campaigns: Charles Banks III, Colin Campbell, Thomas Capps, Timothy Dunn ('83), R. Philip Herget III, Kathy Hornsby ('79), Jeffrey Trammell ('73), and Dennis Liberson ('78) made donations totaling \$60,233, of which \$52,893 went to Democrats, and \$7,340 went to Republicans. The second largest contributor on the Board of Visitors is Coral Reef Alliance Director and recent appointee Dennis H. Liberson, who has given \$10,800 to Creigh Deeds, \$7,500 to A Strong Majority PAC, \$3,000 to Werkheiser for Delegate, and \$1,000 to Jody Wagner. Timothy Dunn was also a major contributor, giving \$7,000 to Creigh Deeds, \$5,000 to Moving Virginia Forward, and \$2,250 to Jody Wagner. Mr. Dunn is a former Vice President of The Capital

Group Companies. The largest Republican faculty donor was Public Policy Professor Louis Rossiter, who gave \$1,500. He donated \$750 to Bill Bolling, the incumbent Lieutenant Governor, with the remaining money going to three House of Delegates candidates, one of whom, Stan Clark, is running against Bill Barlow to represent 64<sup>th</sup> District, which includes the Williamsburg area. President Taylor Reveley donated \$250 to the campaign of Delegate Phil Hamilton (R), who represents Newport News, and \$250 to Delegate Stan Clark. Government Professor Ronald Rapoport, who donated \$5,000 to Tim Kaine's campaign in 2005, and \$30,900 to various Democratic candidates and committees in the 2008 cycle, has made no reported political contributions this election cycle. In total, nearly 93 percent of donated funds went to Democrats and 6 percent to Republicans. This article's information was retrieved from the Virginia Public Access Project and current as of October 18.



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Movie Review:

A worthless trip to the movies

Jordan Bloom  
Arts and Culture Editor



After five minutes with Tucker Max's *I Hope They Serve Beer in Hell*, you'll know why he had to produce it himself. The script is more or less lifted straight out of his blog, and most people will know the lead as "that guy from *Gilmore Girls*." Neither of these things are good signs.

People seem to love Tucker Max. He's a self-crowned "asshole," according to his website, and he writes stories about his sexual adventures and how wasted he gets, bro. Now, we shouldn't have to be told that stories about getting drunk, getting laid, and the perils of anal sex ought to stay in the blogosphere and never, ever, under any circumstances, be committed to celluloid. But here we are, folks. Tucker Max has arrived, with prophylactics, Red Bull, and vodka in tow. The obvious problem here is that moviemaking requires many things that blog posts do not, including storytelling ability and character development. Max has not risen to the challenges of his new medium.

There are only three characters, and they all sound the same. Everyone else who appears is just a sounding board for Tucker, Drew, and Dan to quip at. Dan is a loyally betrothed friend of Tucker's, Drew is habitually cheated on, and Tucker is just a lovably crass bro with a bad attitude. There just isn't anything more to say about them. They speak in unrelentingly contrived *esprit d'escalier*, infuriatingly quippy and full of bad analogies,

including my favorite burn-if-it- weren't-so-dated, "it'd fail worse than a *Friends* spinoff."

Oh yeah, and there's a plot, or something. It's about going to a strip club so Tucker can bed a midget. Sound good?

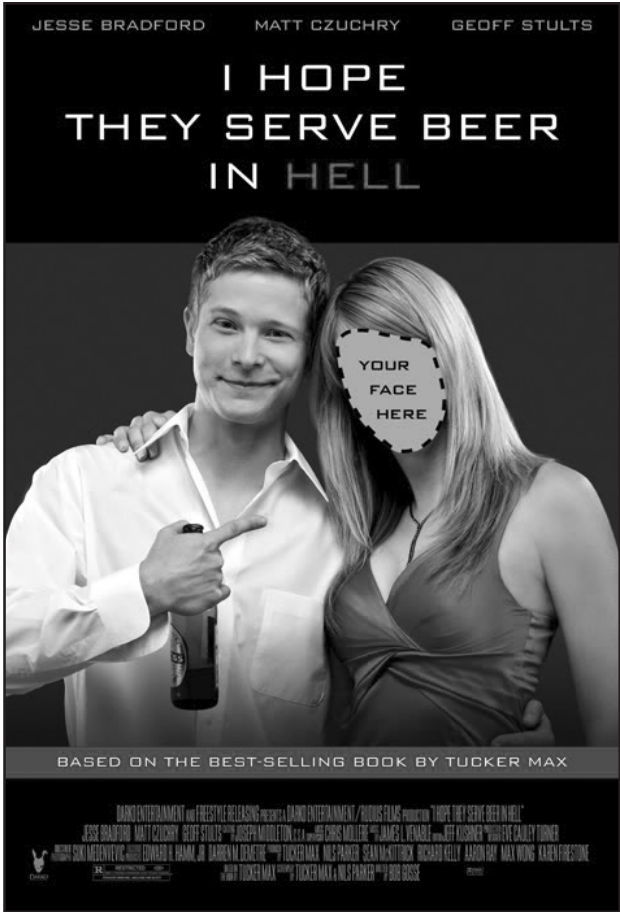
Now, as anyone with any experience with the short story on which this movie is based could guess, this movie is filthy. The jokes are about sex: sex with mid-gets, sex with old people, sex with deaf people, sex with the mentally deficient. There are a few feces jokes for the sake of diversity. All of those things are funny, but all the movie does is reference them. It drops the *idea* of a joke or a reference to a party the night before rather than actually telling it, or it flashes the acts on-screen for a few seconds with no setup or payoff.

Now, don't get me wrong, I love filth and transgression; they are beautiful, powerful, frequently hilarious things, but Max's filth isn't even very imaginative, and God knows it doesn't have a point. In one scene, Tucker has just had his drink spiked with eyedrops (it even steals key plot conceits, this one from *Wedding Crashers*), and after beelining from his hotel room is frantically searching for a toilet. We then get a sequence that's not nearly as funny as the CKY skit from which it is stolen when Max defecates all over the floor and himself, not quite making the bathroom. Now, that might *almost* be as funny as *Jackass*, but it's ruined by the awful smarmy grin that lead Matt Czuchry (that guy from *Gilmore Girls*) just can't seem to shake and the fact that, leaving the bathroom post-defecation, Tucker looks into the mirror and, with nobody around, actually speaks the movie title. It's the worst conceit in a movie that's full of them.

Everything Tucker Max creates is derivative and unclever, and *I Hope They Serve Beer in Hell* is no exception. However, the most damning thing I can say is that it's a

boring, boring movie. There are no humans here, just different avenues for expounding on their creator's narcissism. We hear quip after worn-out quip and watch a strung-together bro-litany of clichés.

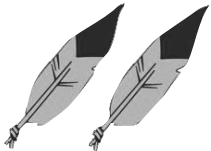
He'll probably get a show on Comedy Central.



Music Review:

Times New Viking release all noise, no kick

Jack Evans  
Music Critic



It seems that several bands in the indie rock underground have decided that since we the consumers don't pay actual money to listen to their music, they aren't going to spend any money recording it. Recent releases from Wavves, Vivian Girls, and Times New Viking have been termed, with hilarious accuracy, "shitgaze." Instead of paying the cash for actual studio time, these bands record in basements and bedrooms and on home recording devices like Apple's Garageband. Times New Viking, one of the supposed innovators in this micro-genre has just released *Born Again Revisited*, its best sound-

ing album to date due to an upgrade from a cassette master tape to (gasp!) a VHS.

Don't get me wrong. I fully support lo-fi recording, but it really takes a special artist to work successfully with this medium.

Some get by on sheer personality. The manic energy that someone like Daniel Johnston puts into his music is only amplified by the fact that what we hear is simply a muffled tape recording of him singing and playing piano in his parents' living room. Others get by on pure songwriting brilliance. I'm thinking of Bob Pollard, the instant hook generator, or Stephen Malkmus, the greatest stream of consciousness lyricist since Dylan.

But Times New Viking doesn't have much personality or songwriting chops. They aren't so much hyper-creative outcasts struggling to be heard as they are hipster fans of said outcasts like Johnston and Pollard, for both of whom lo-fi recording techniques were economic necessities rather than aesthetic decisions.

*Born Again Revisited* is abrasive and noisy, but not in a good way. Rather than using guitar feedback and tape buzz in measured bursts like, say, *White Light/White Heat*-era Velvet Underground, Times New Viking slathers it over everything. Noise is not used in the service of the song but as an end in itself, making

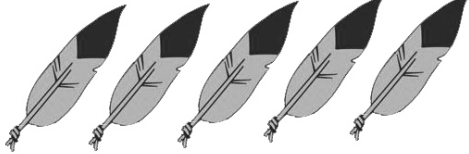
tracks like "I Smell Bubblegum," "(No) Sympathy," and the title track unlistenable for the vast majority of the American population. However, maybe that is okay because I'm not sure what, if anything, this band has to offer, even for those who can make it past the tinny static.

Admittedly, there are times when this racket achieves an odd sort of beauty, but it always feels empty and accidental. "2/11 Don't Forget" and "Move to California" float by with the hazy, fleeting nostalgia of an old Polaroid, and "No

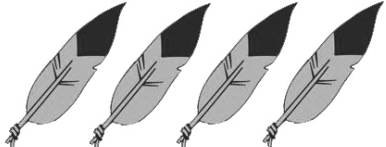
Time, No Hope" is about as anthemic as a song recorded on a VHS tape possibly can be. But that's it. All three of those songs would have sounded better recorded in a decent studio. Still, without the lo-fi gimmick, Times New Viking would be exposed as the run-of-the-mill indie pop band they are.

Any genuine slacker can tell you there's a big difference between not caring about what anybody else thinks and just being lazy, and that Times New Viking is probably the latter.







Excellent




Good



Average



Poor



Terrible



The Finer Side:

# We should cultivate a culture of giving

Americans are a giving people. We take care of our own, as well as those outside our borders. William and Mary is perfect example of this. Many of our students go on to join some sort of public service institution after graduation, including the Peace Corps and Teach for America. We demonstrate a tremendous capacity to serve, to volunteer, to give back. But giving in a monetary capacity is also important. For many of us undergraduates and recent graduates, thinking about leaving a large donation in our wills to an esteemed organization is a long way off. Or is it?

You don't have to be fabulously wealthy to be able to give donations to an organization. Every little bit helps. A perfect example of this is the Senior

Class Gift here at the College. The Senior Class Gift doesn't rely on large donations from just a few students; instead it is primarily composed of smaller gifts from hundreds of students. This creates a larger gift that truly demonstrates how every little bit can add up to a larger gift.

If we apply this thinking to other organizations and to giving in general, then you actually can make a difference at any stage of your life. What's important is to create a culture of giving. By starting the habit now of making small donations to organizations that mean something to you – whether it's the College, a museum in your area, or another charity – when you reach a level when you can afford to make a larger gift, it will

be a practice that you have cultivated throughout your life.

By giving back to a charity or organization that you feel passionately about you will also be able to get more involved in it. Many organizations have special donor societies for higher level donors, which is something to keep in mind as you begin to think about larger gifts. However, many organizations also have smaller recognition levels for donors who give consecutively for a number of years or who give certain amounts. These societies allow you to take a more active role in finding out what the organization is doing and for meeting like-minded people.

At the least, don't discount the importance of a will. A will is incredibly important, even for college undergraduates. Most people think they only need a will when they get older or when they begin having assets like investments

or property. A will is necessary at any stage of life! I was 18 when I had my first will drafted; the importance of will cannot be understated. In it, you can direct where you want things to go should something happen to you; any amount of money you may have – large or small – should have some sort of plan made for it, in order to avoid legal hassles. But wills are also a great way to give back to your favored organization – by leaving money to that institution in your will (in some form of a bequest or planned gift) you can provide for that organization in a way that may better suit your financial situation.

As we enter this holiday season, this season of giving, remember that giving to a charity or institution that has made a difference in your life can bring you as much joy as any other gift-wrapped package.



Jennifer Souers  
The Finer Side

Book Review:

# Magnificently morbid, "Bunny" is enthralling

Jordan Bloom  
Arts and Culture Editor



In an interview with Chart magazine, Nick Cave said he was interested in worlds that are "at once recognizable but distinct from the ones we already live in...hyper-real dream worlds." The Death of Bunny Munro, Cave's second novel, comes very close to being one of those.

The novel's protagonist, Bunny, is a pervert, a philanderer, and the worst father imaginable to his young son, Bunny Jr. He sells beauty products, sleeps with his clients, and has

fetishes for Avril Lavigne and Kylie Minogue that border on obsession. The course of the novel takes us from the appropriate first line, "I am damned," to the conclusion about which the first line and title give us no doubt.

Bunny's wife's suicide is the inchoate moment of his unraveling. She takes her own life but leaves his in a curious state, neither tidy nor in disrepair; she cuts holes in his clothing, leaves notes, and hangs her underwear for him to see (a taunt, presumably), but she is thoughtful enough to leave a stack of pizzas so that Bunny and Bunny Jr. won't go hungry.

Set in Brighton, England, and its surroundings, the inevi-

tability of Bunny's fate hangs heavily over the whole novel but doesn't suffocate it. Cave wallows in piles of lurid detail about Bunny's sexual encounters that lend an absurd, light-hearted feel to the whole story.

A brazen and maniacal serial killer also overshadows Bunny's life. The killer wears devil horns and is working his way south towards Brighton, apparently to claim Bunny's soul. The killings get more appalling and absurd the further south he goes, with one body left so mutilated that its sex is indiscernible. The extremity of the killings opposes Bunny's hedonistic but otherwise unremarkable life, as he works through a morass of similar events – se-

duction, salesmanship, marginal fatherhood -- that run slowly out of steam as Bunny comes closer and closer to dying.

Cave makes utter abhorrence appealing, and that isn't easy to do. Bunny's cold interactions with his nine-year-old son are downright heartbreaking, especially towards the end as Bunny slowly loses it. Meanwhile, Bunny Jr. cleans his father's clothes, tends to his wounds, and receives nothing in return but vague promises to "show him the ropes" of salesmanship.

Story aside, Cave's manic, roiling brilliance is noteworthy. Throughout his musical career he has created gloomy, romantic worlds full of the most threatening kind of love;

this novel marries his comfort with those ideas to contemporary details like the Teletubbies and Avril Lavigne. As The Bad Seeds' songs are populated by highwaymen, trains and whiskey, the world of Bunny Munro contains Kylie Minogue, BBC broadcasts, and single-serving hotel soap and liquor.

Nick Cave is a virtuoso of decay and his other projects are similarly bleak. He's a perfect fit to write the music for Cormac McCarthy's The Road, another of Cave's upcoming projects. In Bunny Munro he finds the murky and sardonic side of sex and pop culture. This novel is closer to home than Cave's other work, which makes it that much more chilling.

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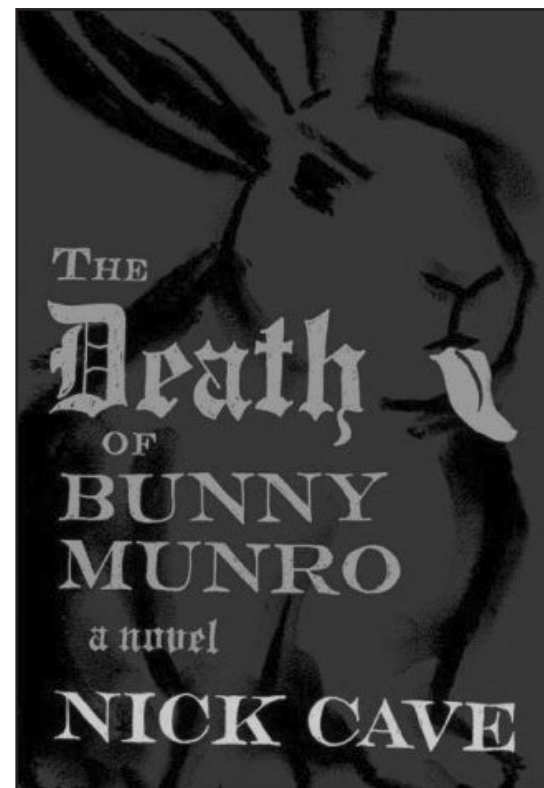
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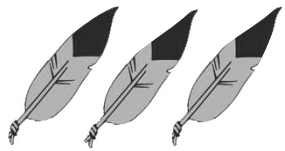
### The Death of Bunny Munro

Author: Nick Cave  
Publisher: Faber & Faber  
Pages: 288  
ISBN: 0865479100



# Gross Indecency beguiles, overwhelms

Travis Jones  
Theater Critic



William & Mary Second Season's production of *Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde* is a history, in many ways. A compilation of court transcripts, letters, newspaper articles, autobiographies and other primary documents, the 'found' play recounts the three trials in 1895 in which Oscar Wilde (Alec Anderson '11) first sues The Marquess of Queensbury (Daniel Boos '13) for libel after he referring to him as a "posing sodomite" and is, himself, twice tried for "gross indecency," which is to say, sodomy. And despite its treatment of a century old trial, the play, written by Moises Kaufman, discusses a contemporary topic, for it posits that Oscar Wilde's trials were not truly adjudications regarding whether or not he had sex with men, but rather were discussions of the relationship between art and morality. This question—it is clear, given the recent public discussion of Roman Polanski's recapture and its merits—is one for which our society has yet to find an answer.

The play, even in its discussion of past events, forces the audience to re-examine this question. Staged Octo-

ber 15-17 in Phi Beta Kappa Hall's Lab Theater, director Kristen Pilgrim ('10) turns the space into a courtroom and implicating the audience as a jury, not in the judgment of Wilde, but in consideration of whether or not art was beyond morality, as Wilde claims. The effect is reinforced by the dialog from sources outside the trial, as news reports and personal letters are presented from the aisles and behind the audience, giving the audience annotations for the historical context of the trial and a greater understanding of the events which precipitated it.

The production's tight ensemble weaves in these elements fluidly, with switches from courtroom cross-examinations to recitations of personal letters and Wilde's musings on the nature of art, all to great effect. This effect, with the annotations and complexity it presents, is staggering, both in its power and its confusion. The play, performed straight, presents such a magnitude of facts and ideas that it becomes somewhat disorienting, sometimes failing to direct the audience's attention to any particular aspect of the story, be it Wilde's ideas about art, the relationship between Wilde and his young lover, Alfred Lord Douglas (Andrew Collie '12) or the complexity of the idea of sexuality. Without this focus, the play says many things, but one doesn't learn much about any one thing.

This is not to say the play is not affecting. With the exception of some line stumbles and fading accents, the performances are altogether convincing and often captivating. Anderson excels as Wilde, presiding regally over his first trial with bemusement, wittily delivering Wilde's legendary quips and aphorisms. When these defenses prove unsuccessful, horror begins to shadow Anderson's face, eliciting great pathos as he shows a man who has finally realized that his world is crumbling around him. As Douglas, Collie brings empathy to a character whose misguided hand in Wilde's downfall an easy villain. Though vain and spoiled, Collie's Douglas shows a young man whose love for Wilde is real and whose intentions are true, but whose inability to understand the forces confronting him doom Wilde. Though these performances stand out due to their im-



portance in the progress of the play, the ensemble as a whole is impressive in its creation of such a magnitude of characters with individual identities and voices, generally averting confusion despite extensive character doubling.

*Gross Indecency*, in telling the story of Oscar Wilde's downfall, shows us an important historical moment—the twilight of the Victorian era—as public ideas about morality, sexuality and art undergo massive transformation. But the trials did not only have social roots and implications, they had personal ones as well. This is a central focus of the play; Wilde's effect on English society and vice-versa.

The play completely appraises the trial but paints it in broad, encompassing strokes from many directions. Without any particular focus, one learns a great deal about Oscar Wilde and the trials debating his sexual practices, but gains little insight into their meaning or significance to either their participants or contemporary society.

## Fall W&M Theatre Events:

### Little Shop of Horrors

November 13 - November 15  
November 19 - November 22

Music by Alan Mencken; Book by Howard Ashman; Directed by Christopher Owens; Musical direction by Gary Green

## Nooks & Crannies of William and Mary:

# J.A.C. Chandler's presidential overhaul

Daisy Weill  
Staff Writer

One could say Julian Alvin Carroll Chandler lived up to his name. With almost as many middle names as Dumbledore, it makes sense that J.A.C. Chandler was president of the College when the school went through its biggest growth spurt. When Chandler took over as president in 1919, the College consisted of what most of us call Ancient Campus and a very small Tucker Hall (known then as Ewell Hall). As president, he was responsible for overseeing the construction of Washington, Tyler, and Ewell Hall (known then as Phi Beta Kappa Hall-confusing right?). He began construction on Blair Hall and expanded Tucker Hall. Additionally, he was responsible for deciding on the design for the Sunken Gardens, which he based off of the gardens at Chelsea Hospital in England. By the time Chandler was finished, all the buildings that surround the Sunken Gardens today, with the exception of McGlothlin-Street Hall, stood in place.

Chandler also directed the construction of most of the dorms that now surround old campus. To accommodate the arrival of the first female students of the College in 1918, Chandler built the first female dorms on campus: Brown, Jefferson,



CHANDLER

Barrett and Chandler Hall. Additionally, increased the number of male dorms with the construction of Monroe and Old Dominion Hall.

Chandler's construction spree did not end with the additional dorm and academic buildings. He also worked with the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation in order to restore the Wren Building, the Brafferton and the President's House to appear as they did during their colonial heyday. He put together the funding for the building of Trinkle Dining Hall, which is now a part of the Campus Center, a gym in Blow Hall, and the first houses on Sorority Court.

President Chandler's work went beyond construction. Holding responsibility for the construction of over a dozen buildings on campus, the expansion of close to half a dozen more, and the restoration of the oldest academic building in the United States was not enough for J.A.C. Chandler. Chandler also bought over 750 acres of land to expand the size of William and Mary campus, including Lake Matoaka. Additionally, because of all of the campus changes he made, Chandler was able to dramatically increase the size of the student body. When Chandler became president, there were just over 300 students attending the College. 106 were women. By the end of Chandler's presidency, there were close to 2,000

**Holding responsibility for the construction of over a dozen buildings on campus, the expansion of close to half a dozen more, and the restoration of the oldest academic building in the United States was not enough for J.A.C. Chandler.**

students attending the College. In his last year in office, women outnumbered men for the first time in the College's history.

Finding the money for all of his construction projects was a feat in itself. Chandler created an Improvement Fund and spent much of his time working with alumni in order to increase the endowment of the school and create funding for construction. In order to improve connections with the alumni community, the Society of the Alumni was formed in 1926. The Society worked to create a special weekend for alumni to come visit the College in order to see all of the revolutionary changes occurring on campus. And so, on October 23, 1926 the College hosted its very first Homecoming weekend. The tradition grew bigger each year and by 1929, the College hosted over a thousand alumni and even held a parade down the Duke of Gloucester Street.

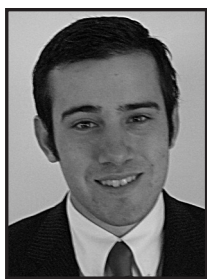




By Sarah Deans

## The fight for student rights marches on

In years past, we at the College have been promised a lot and given very little. More often than not, we are told that things will improve for students, yet instead we are given a tuition hike, a pat on the back, and a sincere apology. "Better luck next year!" they say. However, this year we have actually seen some real reform. A lot of this has to do with the Reveley administration, but a vocal student body and alumni organized to effect real positive change have also played no small role.



Alexander Powell  
Opinion Editor

One of the first and most evident changes has been the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE) giving the College a green light rating, thus elevating us from an inglorious red. Previous administrations had instituted a convoluted and less effective speech code, which featured an anonymous bias reporting system. Many argued this allowed witch hunts and attacks on unpopular groups under the cloak of anonymity. Our rights as students and citizens have been restored, and the minority or unpopular voices on campus can no longer be so easily drowned out by larger or more vocal groups.

We have seen large Honor Council reform and will continue to see more. After two resounding 70% defeats in the polls, the Council

has now allowed candidates for Honor Council office to know the reasons why they are rejected if they are rejected. Attempts by the Council to accrue more power for themselves at the expense of the general population have been stymied as well. The student body has demanded that the Honor Council be more open and democratic, and they have had no choice but to acquiesce.

President Reveley has defended student residents of Williamsburg, not mincing words when he said at a student-city reception that the city should review its handling of student issues. Mr. Reveley is working for real change to better off-campus students' lives, and although we have not seen as much progress as we would like, it is good to know we have powerful allies truly on our side for once.

In statements to the college community, Mr. Reveley has hinted that recent cuts from the state had heavy implications on privatization. In recent interviews with *The Informer*, he has spoken on his desire for an even greater number of out-of-state students to help prevent rising tuition costs. We as a student body know that Mr. Reveley's interests are in the College, not in Richmond. The man is beholden not at all to regional interests. He has demonstrated that he knows that William and Mary cannot be "great and public" without greater freedom from the state government.

In this year alone, we have seen large reforms at the College because both students and President Reveley have demanded changes to the broken status quo. The fight does not end today, however. Even now, new reforms are in the works to give students greater rights, both on and off campus, yet due to their ongoing nature, to speak of them openly might ruin their chances of passing. However, we must feel assured that with a vocal student body and a champion in President Reveley, reform will not just be a talking point; at long last, it is and will continue to be a reality.

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**Our rights as students and citizens have been restored, and the minority or unpopular voices on campus can no longer be so easily drowned out by larger or more vocal groups.**

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## Staff Editorial:

# Alumni: It's time to get involved

Alumni are back in town this homecoming weekend and we are excited to see them on campus. While they are in town, we suggest they take in the sights, hit the delis and live it up, Tribal-style.

We also suggest that, while William and Mary is on their minds, they go to the Career Center website and register with the W&M Alumni Career Network. Too few alumni are involved in this network that should include all alumni. It serves the crucial purpose of making sure William and Mary alumni are not left in the cold when they seek jobs after graduation.

Many alumni choose to donate to the College. Others choose to partner their business or agency with the university to employ graduates. Others lend a hand by

enhancing the academic and social experience of current students through lectures, symposiums, and seminars. It is safe to say that without these individuals the College would not be the world-class institution it is today. Some of the College's very best alumni have even gone the extra length to do two or all three of these things.

The newly revamped Career Center and Mason School of Business have set the standard for William and Mary going forward. The recent Dog Street to Wall Street event sponsored by the Business School's Finance Academy truly demonstrates the stellar commitment of our business alumni. While it is exciting to see such a great event take place, symposiums such as this should

be replicated across all academic departments.

Given the increasingly competitive job market and mass proliferation of undergraduate degrees, a strong Alumni Career Network is vital to ensuring current students thrive and are able to give back. This will undoubtedly help the school prosper in the decades ahead as state support dwindles to mere pittance. We realize that alumni have actual lives and busy careers but committing to hire talented William and Mary graduates is one of the greatest ways they can give back.

President Reveley has quite effectively put William and Mary back on track, but without greater alumni support and involvement going forward little can be done to avoid significant trouble down the road.

## A special midterm review of the Rojas-Ruzic administration

**Bert Mueller**

Executive Editor

**The Virginia Informer: What have you found the greatest challenge to be so far?**

Sarah Rojas: One of the big challenges has been making sure all necessary groups are collaborating when addressing major changes. This includes making sure executive members are talking with senators, or the SA as a whole is talking to other campus organizations who specialize in the area that we are addressing, or simply making sure that every member of the administration that needs to be involved in the discussion is involved. There is just so much to do and so many great ideas, and it's important to make sure that every group that needs to be in the discussion is involved in the conversation.

**VAI: Have there been any problems?**

Rojas: Surprisingly not, so far it's been pretty easy getting our initiatives passed. Nevertheless, before you address an issue you always have to step back and talk strategy, make sure you are talking to the right people and selling the issue in the right way to make sure it gets passed and ultimately helps students.

**VAI: Will elections commissioners be removed from office after the troubles with the last election?**

Rojas: Members of the elections commission will be stepping down when their terms are up, but not due to past troubles. Several of them might seek reappointment and hence would be back in the running.

**VAI: What has been your greatest accomplishment?**

Rojas: I think for the first time the SA is starting to make progress on goals that have been talked about for a long time, but never really been acted on. We are addressing changes in the disciplinary system, the student code of conduct, alcohol policy, student health services, city issues, sexual assault prevention - stuff that used to be issues people ran on and never address are now actively being worked upon and a lot of strides are being made.

Our undersecretaries for sexual assault prevention have also been successful in reviving the Alliance for Sexual Assault Prevention (ASAP). It's a wonderful umbrella group run by the SA executive and made of up a representative from One in Four, Every Two Minutes, Lambda Alliance, and HOPE. ASAP allows them to channel all of their efforts on campus to address sexual assault prevention.

**VAI: What's next on the agenda?**

Rojas: The SA is doing a lot to address outreach. The Ambassador Program's applications were due on October 16 and we're going to kick that program off by early November. SA office hours are also

starting as is the new SA blog on the William and Mary website home page.

**VAI: Are there any new initiatives for Greeks?**

Rojas: The Undersecretaries of Residence Life and Greek Initiatives are definitely addressing the current housing issue through the Department of Student Life. We are also dealing with changes in policies concerning public and private space in basements. Homecoming for next year is also an issue we are already setting up meetings about.



**ROJAS**

**VAI: What happened to the weekly YouTube updates your campaign had suggested?**

Rojas: We did run on those in the campaign and after talking to a lot of people, we decided that students were not going to watch those every week - many suggested to channel more energy into the Ambassador Program and new website blog, which we are doing. I think it's important to

adapt to what students want and what will actually be worth spending time on. We still throw the idea around and we're going to do a mid year type review on utilizing YouTube.

**VAI: Are there any other initiatives you would like to discuss?**

Rojas: We've worked hard on the flu shot subsidies, the new SA website, and our voter registration efforts. We are also having small meetings with city officials regarding economic development efforts, expansion of student-friendly businesses, as well as neighborhood issues. We are working to host a coffee or cider break in the neighborhoods around the college where there has been recent town-gown tension.

Airport rides were a huge success and so was Busch Gardens day. Also, the CORE series has been really successful; as have all the co-sponsorships we've been doing with many multicultural organizations. We are putting together a packet for international students and working with Dining Services on flex point refunds for students celebrating holidays such as Ramadan.

On the disciplinary side, we have put in proposals to change the warning system dealing with disciplinary actions and have been in conversations with some of the deans. Also, the secretary of college policy is also reviewing alcohol policy and progress is being made on that.

The Richmond internship program is amazing this year - students will be placed in different governmental offices around the state and the amount of credits for the program has been increased this year.

We are committed to greening the college and are launching a new recycling program through our undersecretary or environmental policy. We are also launching a mentorship program between grads and undergrads.

**The Virginia Informer: How is the plan to get permanent ambassadors to student organizations going?**

Ryan Ruzic: It's going on right now. Before Sarah and I took over, the executive branch of student government didn't have an outreach department. One of the first things we did was create a department of outreach. So after setting up the department and integrating with the rest of the student government, right now we're actively recruiting people to serve as ambassadors. In the mean time, we've been meeting with different groups to explain to them how to request funds and what the budgetary process is. This is the student's money and one of our big jobs is to distribute it.

**VAI: Speaking of outreach, have any students actually come to office hours?**

Ruzic: Office hours have been a little trickier than other things we've been doing. My vision of office hours is that any students can come by the student government offices and talk to people there about whatever issues they have. Sarah and I doing it 5 hours a week seemed like a limited amount of time for students to come in so we wanted all of the senators and secretaries to participate and it would have been a great program. Senators are currently holding office hours.

**VAI: What would you call your greatest success so far?**

Ruzic: Student government's greatest success so far in helping the most students has been making STI testing free. This is not something like increased outreach or transparency that everyone agrees are good but not everyone sees effects of in a measurable way; this is something that helps everyone in a very real way.

**VAI: What exactly are you looking to do about Greek housing?**

Ruzic: One of the things we're trying to do is give members of the Greek community the ability to interact with the upper levels of the administration and discuss these issues. The university is certainly a little more sensitive to monetary matters like not being able to fill the housing units.

**VAI: Has the student government been lobbying Richmond for more money? Money seems**

**to be in short supply...**

Ruzic: We definitely haven't given up on lobbying Richmond. Lobbying for state funding is something I think is very important for the student government to do. Of course, the university continues to get cuts so it's hard to say these efforts have helped. This is one of those nebulous issues where it's difficult to see what direct influence we actually have over it. Certainly everyone I've talked to in the general assembly says that they appreciate us coming there and the College has been very positive about our lobbying efforts.

**VAI: The planning commission didn't support the four-person rule. What's the next step you and Sarah are going to take?**

Ruzic: One of the things we're really trying to do is promote positive action between the students and residents of Williamsburg. The problems we have with the city are largely because of a mistaken impression that students will be bad neighbors, will lower property values and have a lot of parties.

Four years in the city is not a brief time and [students and residents] need to be able to live well together and we can. We've organized block parties with the city of Williamsburg where students and residents can come together. We've organized a tailgating with the police department so students can have more interaction with them.

**VAI: What do you see as next on the agenda?**

Ruzic: Student government's job is really two-fold, speaking very generally: one, advocating for students and two, distributing the student fees we bring in. That process is actually just starting up. It's quite a bit of work but is ultimately a very important job.

**VAI: If there's one thing you want to get done this year, what would that be?**

Ruzic: The one thing I personally want to see is for us to distribute the student fees we take in, all of them. There is about \$170,000 sitting in the consolidated reserve right now. Now, how that money got there is student government taking in more money than it passes out. We're supposed to have a reserve but that reserve has built up to ungodly amounts. I know Sarah believes we should be handing out more money to student groups.



**RUZIC**



# Point-Counterpoint | Election 2009

## Virginia

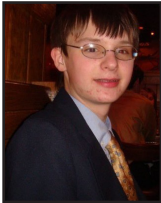
The upcoming Virginia gubernatorial election will help decide the course that the state of Virginia will take in the ongoing economic crisis. Both candidates have different plans to deal with the problems facing the state, including the fate of Virginian higher education. This Informer debate gives an opportunity for two students - Bill Corkery, representing Republican gubernatorial candidate Bob McDonnell, and Chuck Gillespie, representing Democratic presidential candidate Creigh Deeds - to argue why their candidate's position on each issue is the better one.



**Bill Corkery**  
Class of '11

This coming election season, Virginians are going to choose their next governor. The choice is between Attorney General Bob McDonnell and state senator Creigh Deeds. Both are good, hardworking men who have spent their lives in Virginia and are genuinely working to make it a better place. Still, in this election we must choose one of these two men to lead Virginia through these troubling times into the future. A voter's job is not just to listen to sound clips or tirades about a candidate but also to do the leg work and study both men's plans. There is no substitute for that. This debate

is only meant to help voters decide, not to be the primary influence. I believe Bob McDonnell has proven to Virginia through his 21 years of service in the military that he loves this country. He worked as a business manager at a Fortune 500 company before becoming a statesman. While serving in the House of Delegates, he sponsored bills such as Virginia's historic welfare reform legislation, the reform of Virginia's drunk driving laws, and legislation to rewrite and improve Virginia's Public-Private Partnership Transportation Act. After being chosen by Virginia to be attorney general, he focused on keeping Virginians safe. He even fulfilled all seven of his campaign pledges. He enacted a 25-year mandatory minimum sentence for violent child sex offenders, increased penalties for drug dealers, and helped make Virginia a national leader in combating internet crimes and identity theft. Bob McDonnell has shown that no matter what issue he is approaching, he has Virginia's best interest at heart.



**Chuck Gillespie**  
Class of '13

This year, the state gubernatorial contest is between former Attorney General Bob McDonnell and state senator Creigh Deeds. On several issues, Bob McDonnell is seriously out of touch with the needs of Virginia's voters. This year's election will be especially important, for it comes in the wake of budget reductions that have seriously impacted Virginia's state colleges and universities. Deeds' plan to address higher education is specific, and includes the creation of a rainy day fund to defray future tuition increases and a

proposal to provide scholarships covering half the cost of tuition for students willing to work in public service. In contrast, McDonnell merely promises "restructuring the system" and to "look for innovative programs and practices that will reduce the costs of textbooks." McDonnell also supports paying for highway improvements by taking \$5.4 billion from the state's general fund, which also funds higher education, over the next 10 years. Furthermore, McDonnell has expressed support for placing limits on the number of out-of-state students admitted to Virginia state colleges as a way to "expand access for Virginia students." This would put yet another financial burden on colleges by reducing revenue from out-of-state students. Throughout the course of this campaign, McDonnell's campaign has shown a lack of concrete ideas. In contrast, the Deeds campaign has put forth specific plans to alleviate the state's fiscal crisis and move Virginia forward.

**Gillespie** While McDonnell does have a long record, some of his decisions have been questionable. As attorney general, he took part in the debate over The Sex Workers' Art Show at William and Mary by forbidding the sale of merchandise associated with the performance, an act questionable on First Amendment grounds. Also, McDonnell led the fight in the General Assembly to reject \$125 million in federal stimulus funding for unemployment insurance on the grounds that it could result in tax increases once the money ran out. This move, while politically advantageous to McDonnell, hurt out-of-work Virginians and Virginia's taxpayers, who will now pay for stimulus money that they don't receive. McDonnell's opposition came after he had previously expressed support for stimulus funding, telling the Washington Post that "we ought to take it to the maximum degree...possible." This shows McDonnell's disturbing willingness to put political gain over the needs of Virginia's unemployed voters.

Deeds also has a record of achievement to rival McDonnell's. A former prosecutor, Deeds sponsored a law to allow public access to the state's sex offender registry. He also sponsored the law creating the state's Amber Alert system, which helps track kidnapped children. Deeds helped pass a law responsible for curbing methamphetamine production in Virginia. Also, Deeds helped resolve the state's 2002 budget crisis.

Deeds also has a strong record on the environment. He worked for the cleaning of the Kim-Stan landfill, a successfully reclaimed Superfund site, and wrote a law to preserve open space. He has also worked with Governor Kaine to enact a

**Corkery** In regards to the Sex Workers' Art Show, that is an open debate, and McDonnell cannot be faulted for doing what he thought best for Virginians. With the stimulus, McDonnell is well within his right to decline, because, just as you stated, over the long term it would have been a federal tax increase for Virginians. All this means is that McDonnell is willing to take short term heat if it helps Virginians out in the long term.

While these things are good to discuss, it is also necessary to discuss some of the awards McDonnell has received in his short time in the House of Delegates and as attorney general. He was named the Network of Victims of Crime Legislator of the Year in 1996, The National Child Support Enforcement Association National Legislator of the Year in 1998, The Family Foundation of Virginia's Legislator of the Year in 1998 and 2001 and was named "Legislator of the Year" by both the Fraternal Order of Police and the Virginia Sheriff's Association.

**Gillespie** Creigh Deeds has presented a forward-looking and concrete plan to improve Virginia's economy and work for the best interests of Virginia's citizens. On the other hand, Bob McDonnell has chosen to run his campaign largely on his past achievements, neglecting to present a substantive plan to move Virginia forward. Also, McDonnell's rejection of unemployment stimulus funding shows a willingness to put political advantage ahead of the best interests of Virginians and his own promises to the electorate. For these reasons and others, Creigh Deeds is clearly the best candidate for Virginia and best hope for its future.

**Corkery** I was unaware that the most important thing in this recession is education, and not, for instance, the economy or jobs or energy. But if we want to talk about education, McDonnell's and Deeds' plans and accomplishments have been recorded. An example of McDonnell's care for education was in 1998, when he sponsored a law which authorized the creation of charter schools. Deeds voted against that bill. It is also noteworthy that Deeds was endorsed by the teachers' union, an organization that lambasted charter schools. Bob McDonald showed his commitment to Virginia's public school system by putting all five of his kids through public school. I cannot think of a better governor for Virginia with regards to education than one who sent his all of his kids to Virginia public schools and two of his daughters to Virginia public universities. Finally, to say that "Deeds has specific plans to alleviate the state's fiscal crisis" without support and only talk about education is to make a hollow point at best.

**Gillespie** In addition to his work with education, Deeds plans to help alleviate the economic crisis by increasing job training funding by \$10 million, creating a Rural Business Fund for small businesses in depressed areas, removing bureaucratic obstacles and providing tax credits for small businesses throughout the state, and reforming mortgage lending practices. Deeds supported an extension of health benefits to unemployed Virginians, and wants to create a loan fund to help unemployed workers buy health insurance. He also wants to allow unemployed workers to buy into the state's children's health insurance plan. Deeds helped write the law creating the Governor's Opportunity Fund to attract businesses to Virginia. Deeds also plans to reduce the state's energy consumption by 20 percent over four years, in part by increasing the gas mileage of the state's vehicle fleet. Deeds' plan will provide state funding for clean coal research, improved power grid technology, and natural gas production. Like McDonnell, Deeds has personal experience with public education, having attended public schools in Bath County. Deeds plans to make efficiency audits mandatory for school systems, create a loan fund to pay for improvements suggested by these audits, and establish a bulk purchase program for school supplies. Deeds will also update the state's high-school graduation requirements to reflect the skills necessary for college admissions and 21st century employment. Deeds also plans to improve teacher quality by raising salaries to the national average, providing loan forgiveness for teachers who agree to work in science and math programs or hard-to-staff schools, creating performance-based pay incentives, and expanding professional development opportunities. While Deeds may have voted against charter schools in the past, he currently supports charter schools as part of a plan to accommodate different learning styles.

**Corkery** Both Deeds and McDonnell are good, qualified men for the position of governor. But leadership is a necessary quality to inspire confidence in others. McDonnell has the support of many people including Sheila Johnson, co-founder of Black Entertainment Television, as well as business organizations like the Virginia Association of Realtors, and the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB). If such a diverse group looks at Bob and sees the qualities of leadership and hard work, as well as a firm commitment to Virginia's best interests,